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PROCEEDINGS
OF
THE ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY.

1841.

No. 27.

January 25, 1841.

SIR WM. R. HAMILTON, LL.D., President, in the Chair.

The Rev. Dr. Todd, V.P., made some remarks on two large medallion busts, with Greek inscriptions, which are preserved in the Manuscript Room of the Library of Trinity College. These busts have been in the possession of the College for upwards of a century, but there is no record in the archives of the University stating how or from whom they were obtained. In the Appendix to the Preface of Gudius's *Inscriptiones Antiquæ*,* the editors of that work have given a list of inscriptions, which they state to have been furnished by Herman Van der Hoorst, Chaplain to the Dutch in Smyrna; and, in this list, the very busts now in Dublin are thus described, (No. XIII.):

“No. XIII. Smyrnæ in domo cujusdam Græci Zachariæ

* The full title of this work is as follows:—“*Antiquæ Inscriptiones olim a Marquardo Gudio collectæ, nuper a Ioanne Koolio digestæ, hortatu consilioque Joannis Georgii Grævii; nunc a Francisco Hesselio editæ, cum annotationibus eorum.*” Leovard. 1731. Fol.

nomine, duæ muliebres imagines sculptæ adfabre, et incorruptæ; altera cum hac inscriptione,

ΚΛΣ. ΛΥΣΙΜΑΧΗΝ ΤΗΝ ΦΙΛΑΝΔΡΟΝ
Ο ΘΡΕΨΑΣ ΘΗΛΥΜΙΤΡΗΣ

altera cum hac inscriptione

———— ΤΗΝ ΝΕΑΝ ΜΥΗΣΙΩΝ ΠΟΛΙΝ
———— ΤΙΑΣ ΑΤΤΙΚΟΣ."

Dr. Todd stated that he had met with a letter in the Bodleian Library, in which these busts are mentioned, and the interpretation of the inscriptions discussed. It is preserved in the valuable correspondence of Dr. Thomas Smith, who was Fellow of Magdalen College at the Revolution, and whose lot it was to have been twice deprived of his Fellowship by the opposite parties of that period; first, by King James II., when the attempt was made by that monarch to alter the constitution of the College; and secondly, by King William III., when Dr. Smith resigned his preferment rather than take the oath to the new dynasty. The letter is addressed by Dr. Smith to Dr. Narcissus Marsh, then Lord Primate of Ireland, who had been Principal of St. Alban Hall, Oxford, and subsequently Provost of Trinity College, Dublin. The portion of the letter which relates to the busts is as follows:—

“The two busts sent to Dublin from Legorne, I suppose came from Smyrna, or the country thereabout, where old monuments are continually discovered.

“The first erected to the honour (for so I will favourably interpret it) of Clodia Lysimache (who is styled there *φίλανδρος*, i. e. *virī sive maritī amans*; tho’ oftentimes *φίλανδρος γυνή* is taken in an ill sense for a lascivious and incontinent woman) by one who bred her up and maintained her, viz., *Thelymitres*, if that be his proper name, which is not unlikely, tho’ the appellative *Θηλύμιτρος* is used of an effeminate man abandoned to the excessive love of the other sex, and there-

fore explained by Suidas by the word *πόρονος*. But bee that as it will, hee was desirous to preserve the memory of his *Θρεπτῇ* or *Alumna* by this representation, as some of the *Θρεπτῆρες* or *οἱ Θρέψαντες* used to do frequently enough, as is evident from undoubted inscriptions.

“ ’Tis pity, that the other inscription is imperfect and erased. Stephanus Byzantinus, in his booke *περὶ πόλεων*, mentions *Μῦνης* a city of Ionia, its *ἔθνικόν* or *Gentilitium nomen* *Μυήσιος*, w^{ch} is the name in the inscription; but whether Myes bee here meant by *νέα πόλις* then newly erected into a city, or some other city built by the inhabitants of the former, forced to remove to a more convenient and healthier place, the defect in the beginning, owing to the injury of time after so many ages, will not suffer us to know now who it was that did honour to this *new city* by setting up this monument, who I suppose was a Greeke of Attica, and the word preceding it may be the name of the tribe or *δῆμος* to which hee belonged. If it be the same with *Myús*, *Μυῶνς*, as is very likely, then it is certaine that it was a maritime city of Ionia, not farre from the river *Mæander*, w^{ch} I passed over in my travells to take a view of the once famous churches of Asia, on a rotten wooden bridge going thence, leaving Caria on the other side into Ionia, of w^c wee have several accounts given by Strabo, Pausanias, and Pliny, not to mention other authors both Greek and Latine. Pliny now lying upon my table I think fit to transcribe his words, *Nat. Histor. lib. v. cap. 29—Myús, quod primo condidisse Iones narrantur, Athenis profecti*. But I do not pretend to write a commentary on these marbles, but leave that to be done by those learned men, who are in possession of them.”

In a P. S. he adds :

“ Reviewing those hasty notes upon the two Greek inscriptions, I began soone to doubt of my conjecture about Atticus, as if it had beene a patronymic, and the name of the tribe or *δῆμος* of Attica prefixed : but now I am prone to be-

lieve that this *Atticus* reckoned among the most famous orators of Greece, who flourished in the times of Hadrian and Antoninus Pius, and who had been sent upon several embassyes *πρεσβεῖαι* to Smyrna, and other free cities of the lesser Asia, where hee presided with great honour, as appears from Philostratus in the life of Scopelianus, and was the father of *Herodes Atticus*, as hee is commonly called by the Roman writers, as if it were the name of the familye : whereas it should bee more properly *Herodes Attici*, viz., *filius*, as in the inscription on his monument at Athens preserved by Philostratus in his life.

Ἀττικοῦ Ἡρώδης, Μαραθώνιος, οὗ τὰδε πάντα
Κεῖται τῷδε τάφῳ, πάντοθεν εὐδόκιμος.

This Herodes succeeded his father in the same honours at home, and in the like governments abroad, and was magnificent in his buildings and public works, in Greece and Italy, having been preceptor to Marcus Aurelius in the studies of oratory (of which he was universally esteemed a most celebrated Master) as Julius Capitolinus has observed in the life of that Emperour, and Consul A.U.C. 896. A. Ch. 143. But I thinke to the father, rather than the son, the Atticus in the inscription is to bee ascribed, and if so, how hee comes to bee called *Hippitias* or *Hippotias* if that bee his pre-nomen, and the right reading, or whether Hippatias, or whatever it should bee, bee the proper name of the person, who put up the monument, and Atticus of his country, I have not time nor leisure to enquire ; and in the whole am no way fond of my conjecture, w^{ch} I look upon as altogether uncertaine."

" 4 Nov. 1707."*

* Collect. Smith, vol. 58, p. 257.

The following are exact representations of the inscriptions reduced to one-fifth of the original size:

ΚΛ' ΛΥ ΓΙ ΜΑ ΧΙ ΝΤ Ι Ν Φ Ι Λ Α Ν Δ Ρ Ο Ν
Ο Θ Ρ Ε Ψ Α Γ Θ Ι Λ Υ Μ Ι Τ Ρ Η Γ &

Α Ν Μ Υ Η Σ Ι Ω Ν Π Ο Λ Ι Ν
Τ Ι Α Σ < Α Τ Τ Ι Κ Ο Σ

Dr. Todd stated that one of the busts appears to have suffered some injury since they were described by the editors

of Gudius, and by Dr. Smith. The second inscription has lost some letters; instead of THN NEAN, the words with which its first line then commenced, the last two letters of these words only are now discernible. He also exhibited to the Academy fac-similes of the inscriptions, and made some remarks on the differences observable in the characters in which they are written.

The Rev. Charles Graves, F.T.C.D., read a paper On certain general Properties of the Cones of the Second Degree.

Let a sphere be described whose centre is at the vertex of a cone of the second degree, and through the vertex let two planes be drawn parallel to the planes of the circular sections of the cone; the curve formed by the intersection of the cone and sphere is called a *spherical conic*, and the two planes meet the surface of the sphere in two great circles which are called the cyclic arcs of the conic. These arcs, as M. Chasles has observed, possess properties relative to the conic exactly analogous to those of the asymptotes of a hyperbola. Moreover, many of their properties depend on the most elementary ones of the circle; but, as all the properties of cones, and therefore of spherical conics, are double, each theorem relative to the cyclic arcs furnishes a corresponding one relative to the foci of the supplementary conic, formed by the intersection of the sphere with a cone whose generatrices are perpendicular to the tangent planes of the cone on which the proposed conic is traced. And further, the theorems relating to spherical conics become applicable in general to the plane conic sections, by supposing the radius of the sphere to become infinite.

These considerations, for which we are indebted to M. Chasles, are calculated to direct the attention of geometers to the cyclic arcs of the spherical conics. In following this track, Mr. Graves has been led to many new and general